

# THE WILSON BULLETIN.

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## EDITORIAL.

The editor desires to especially commend to you the calls which Mr. Frank L. Burns makes for assistance elsewhere in this issue. No words of mine are needed to add to the assurance that whatever aid may be given to Mr. Burns will be properly credited and used in the most effective manner, for the report on the Crow and the Monograph of the Flicker amply attest what he can do with any material which may come into his hands. I am certain that contributions for this cause will rebound to the credit of the contributor. Don't delay. Get what notes you now have ready at once and send them in, and plan for the collection of more and better notes in the year that is before you.

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Letters from many places in the middle west indicate a marked scarcity of many of the common winter birds. In Ohio this scarcity has been so marked that usually unobservant editors of local papers have remarked upon it in their columns. There appears to be no good reason for this scarcity in local conditions nor in the character of the season. Food of nearly all kinds seems to be in the usual quantities. It would be very interesting to gather notes upon the condition of the bird faunas of the whole country for comparison to determine if there is any general diminution of numbers, or if there are particularly favored and particularly unfavored regions. The editor would be glad to receive such reports for study, correlation, and report in the Bulletin.

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The editor's attention has been called to his article in the last number of the Bulletin regarding the list of Birds of Cleveland and his own observations in Erie County, Ohio, and he is glad to make corrections at

this time. The statement that the Piping Plovers of this region are without a complete breast band is an unpardonable slip, for they certainly do. Since the King Eider is found not uncommonly on Lake Ontario, and is an open water bird, it may well be that it may be found in some number in the lake off from Cleveland. It seems that the specimens of Snow Goose from Detroit and that vicinity are of the Lesser type. Of course the observation recorded was merely a record made with a high-power field glass and subspecific distinctions of the fineness presented by these geese was out of the question. It could only be determined that the birds were Snow Geese.

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In Mr. F. H. Hall's article in the last Bulletin on Adirondack birds Mr. Eaton was quoted as stating that human occupancy is a menace to the bird life of those regions. It appears that the source of Mr. Hall's information was a misquotation of Mr. Eaton, who made a public correction of the statement which had come to the notice of Mr. Hall. Mr. Eaton agrees very closely with Mr. Hall's observations.

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#### GENERAL NOTES.

A GOLDEN EAGLE IN MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO. The rare occurrence of the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) east of the Mississippi River justifies the publication of any such records. On November 3, 1905, a fine adult female was captured about five miles of Troy, Miami county. It could not fly owing to a broken wing received from a shot wound received sometime previous. The bird was kept alive for two months and a half in the hope that the wing might recover, but since the humerus was broken in two, and although nature heroically endeavored to repair the fracture by putting out great knots of bony tissue on the broken ends, the effort was futile. The bird persistently picked off all bandages for the support of the broken wing. During its captivity we fed it beef, with an occasional rabbit. It could dispose of a rabbit in a remarkably short time. The confinement did not seem to affect its appetite, for that never failed. It was very attractive on account of its general beauty, but especially on account of the brilliance of its hazel-brown eyes. We were further interested to observe that it did not defend itself with its hooked bill but with its powerful talons. It was identified by an old taxidermist as a young Bald Eagle, but the entirely feathered tarsus proclaimed it a Golden Eagle beyond doubt, to say nothing of the cowl of golden-brown feathers and the fact that the basal two-thirds of the tail was white, and the outer one-third was very dark brown. Finally realizing that the wing would not heal, and knowing that there must be a